There is no indigenous production of Potash as the country does not have any known and commercially viable source of this nutrient.

The consumption of fertilizer nutrients in the country during the last three years is given below:

(Lakh tonnes)

Year	Consumption of fertilizers			
	Nitrogen (N)	Phospahte (P)	Potash (K)	N+P+K
1992-93 . . .	84.27	28.44	8.84	121.55
1993-94 . . .	87.89	26.69	9.08	123.66
1994-95 . . . (Estimated for the entire year)	96.42	30.06	11.82	138.30

(c) The cost of production of fertilizer varies from plant to plant depending upon the feedstock used, health and vintage of the plant, capacity utilisation, energy consumption, etc. In the case of urea, which is currently the only controlled fertilizer, the weighted average retention price per tonne of urea, which is the weighted average cost of production together with reasonable return on network as assessed by the Government, is Rs. 5088/-. The weighted average landed cost of urea imported during current year upto February 1995 is about Rs. 6095/- per tonne.

Since phosphatic and potassic fertilizers have been decontrolled and their imports decanalized, no record is maintained of the costs of their production and import.

Transfer of basic drugs from negative list of imports

1738. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are proposing to transfer 8 basic drugs from negative list of imports to open General Licence;

(b) whether such a move is being to affect the Public Sector Undertakings which are making available at lesser costs these medicines to Indian consumers;

(c) whether government propose to intervene to protect the interests of PSUs and the consumers; and

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Closure of Durgapur Unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd

1739. SHRIMATII CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Durgapur unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. is remaining closed because of a closure order by Supreme Court on account of non-installation of effluent treatment plant by HFC management;

(b) whether it is a fact that Supreme Court had issued order as early as on 19th February, 19993 allowing two months time from the date of order to complete setting up of treatment plants which must conform to the standards; if so, the action taken by the HFC management since last two years to install these plants; and